

FACT SHEET

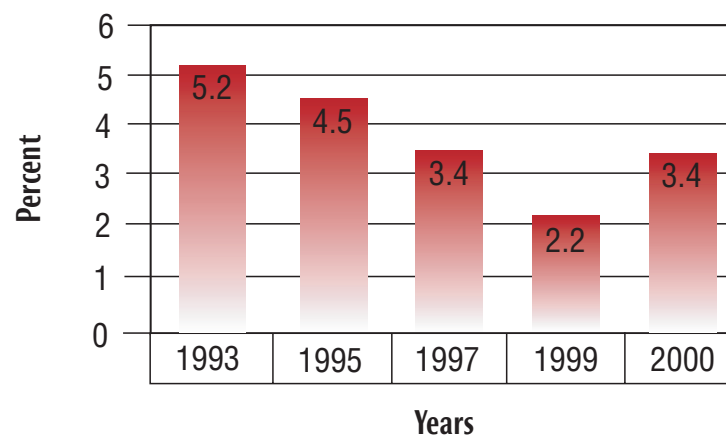
Smokeless Tobacco

Hawai'i State Department of Health

- There are four types of smokeless tobacco products: dry snuff, moist snuff, plug/twist, and loose leaf chewing tobacco. [1]
- Using smokeless tobacco can cause cancer of the throat, larynx, and esophagus. Smokeless tobacco damages the lips, tongue, cheeks, and the floor and roof of the mouth. It can also lead to high blood pressure, gum disease, loss of bone in the jaw, and tooth decay. [2]
- Smokeless tobacco is not a safe alternative to cigarettes. Chewing tobacco and snuff contains 28 cancer causing agents such as formaldehyde and lead. [2]
- The nicotine content of 1 can of snuff is equivalent to 60 cigarettes. [2]
- Every hour one person dies of oral cancer in the U.S. [3]
- Researchers have recently found that chewing tobacco increases the likelihood of developing dental caries when compared to non-users. [4]
- In 1999 smokeless tobacco manufacturers spent \$170.21 million on advertising and promotion. According to the Federal Trade Commission, this amount is of an all time high. This resulted in 109.4 million pounds of smokeless tobacco sold, with revenues reaching \$1.94 billion. [1]
- Moist snuff is the most popular type of smokeless tobacco. In 1999, 58.47 million pounds were sold; this surpassed the combined amounts of the other three tobacco products. [1]

- In 2000, 7% of high school students across the U.S. reported currently using smokeless tobacco. [5]
- The percentage of high school students currently using smokeless tobacco in Hawai'i is beginning to rise.

Percentage of Hawai'i Public High School Students Who Are Currently Smokeless Tobacco Users, 1993-2000



Data Source: Youth Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, Year 2000 data- Hawai'i Tobacco Survey, Hawai'i State Dept. of Health

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